

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 20 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--In one aspect of the invention there is provided an apparatus for spraying powders which includes a housing having first and second opposed ends defining a chamber terminating in an outlet passageway at a first end of the housing. A high voltage pin electrode is positioned in the chamber spaced upstream of the outlet passageway and, the high voltage electrode has a first surface area. A ground electrode is positioned in the chamber spaced upstream from the high voltage electrode and the ground electrode has a second surface area sufficiently larger than the first surface area of said pin electrode to give a pin-to-surface electrode configuration such that when a high voltage is applied to the high voltage pin electrode, an electrical field produced in a vicinity of the ground electrode is sufficiently low enough to prevent arc discharging occurring in the vicinity of the ground electrode in the chamber. Also an inlet opening into the chamber is provided for conducting a powder-gas mixture into the chamber. The high voltage electrode receives a gas for avoiding powder deposits on the high voltage electrode.--